

U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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Sep 18, 2007

EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Radwan Almadrahi

DEARBORN CONSPIRATORS SENTENCED FOLLOWING THEIR UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO BRIBE A JUROR IN A FEDERAL TRIAL

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy and Andrew C. Arena, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, announced today that the third and final member of the conspiracy who tried unsuccessfully to bribe a juror in November 2004 was sentenced on Monday, September 17, 2007 by the Honorable Gerald E. Rosen.

On February 28, 2007, Ahmad Musa Jebril, age 36, the mastermind of the conspiracy, was sentenced to serve 77 months in custody, to be followed by 2 years supervised release. Thirty months of Jebril's sentence will run consecutive to the 70-month sentence that was imposed following his earlier conviction, for a total period of incarceration of 100 months.

On June 18, 2007, Musa Fawzi Odeh, age 22, the nephew of Ahmad Jebril, was sentenced to serve 12 months and one day, to be followed by 2 years supervised release.

On September 17, 2007, Radwan Almadrahi, age 25, a student of Ahmad Jebril's lectures since he was a teenager in 2001, was sentenced to 3 years probation, the first 120

days to be served on home confinement.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, "Trial by jury is a keystone in our criminal justice system that depends on the impartiality and fairness of the citizens who serve as jurors. Any effort to persuade a juror to compromise the jury process, or even to contact a sitting juror regarding the exercise of her sworn duty, is a serious matter that undermines the promise of fairness and due process."

According to the information presented to the court at the time of the three conspirators' pleas, in November 2004, Ahmad Jebril and his father, Musa Jebril, were on trial before Judge Rosen on a 42-count indictment charging them with conspiracy, bank fraud, mail fraud, wire fraud, Social Security fraud, money laundering, failure to file income tax returns, and being felons in possession of firearms and ammunition. During jury selection in that case, Ahmad Jebril targeted the female juror seated as Juror Nine, and recruited his nephew Musa Odeh, his student Radwan Almadrahi, and others to approach Juror Nine at her place of business and attempt to persuade her to find the Jebrils not guilty. Almadrahi and Odeh did locate Juror Nine; they spoke with her fiancé and offered to pay for their wedding and buy them a house if she could cause the jury to acquit the Jebrils.

Instead, Juror Nine immediately came forward to Judge Rosen and reported the unlawful conduct. Judge Rosen excused her from jury service; the remaining jurors were told only that Juror Nine had been released from jury duty for personal reasons. The trial proceeded to its conclusion, and Ahmad Jebril and Musa Jebril were convicted of all 42 counts.

The results of the FBI investigation of the attempts to bribe the juror were presented to a federal grand jury, and indictments were returned in February 2006. The three defendants pleaded guilty in December 2006.